

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Benjamin Kirk of  
Nashville, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of  
this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Benjamin Kirk; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Kirk was a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee who  
was very dedicated to his profession, community and family; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Kirk devoted his life to his music, and served with distinction as  
the associate director of the Tennessee State University “Aristocrat of Bands”; and

WHEREAS, he was also a cherished member of the faculty in the Tennessee State  
University Music Department; and

WHEREAS, a Tennessee State University alumnus, Benjamin Kirk received his bachelor  
of science degree in 1969 and in 1983 he received his masters degree in education; and

WHEREAS, prior to his exemplary career at Tennessee State University, Benjamin Kirk  
was a music instructor at Shaw University, and in 1979 Benjamin was a music arranger with  
Capitol Records and RCA; and

WHEREAS, during his meritorious career in music, Benjamin Kirk has performed with  
some of the finest entertainers in the music industry, including Barry White, Stevie Wonder,  
Dizzie Gillespie, Marvin Gaye and Barbara Mandrell, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kirk also had the honor of touring with legendary singer James Brown;  
and

WHEREAS, at Tennessee State University, Benjamin Kirk directed the Jazz Ensemble  
which, under his sagacious leadership, was selected to perform for the Inaugural Parade of  
President Bill Clinton;

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WHEREAS, the legacy Benjamin Kirk leaves behind will be long remembered by his family, including his beloved wife, Brenda Kirk, and their children: Chris, Richard, Robin, Bonita, Veronica, Michael, William and Chantee', and treasured by his friends and associates for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Benjamin Kirk, remembering with admiration his exemplary character and many selfless contributions to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Benjamin Kirk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.